

From: Grubert
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 3:29pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

We are opposed to the Micosoft Settlement because it has insufficient guarantees that Microsoft will not continue to use it's desktop monopoly to damage competition.

Please consider that Microsofts programming API's are the computing equivalent of legal contracts, and must be consistant and stable in order for competition to be meaningful. It would be wise to find some way to ensure that Microsoft does not use changes in it's API only to trip up competitors products by changing behaviours in the undefined areas of this technical contract.

A contract must be clear, sufficiently complete and retain it's meaning over time. So should a published API spec by a monopolist.

Given that the API is now the playing field of software product competition, the API is an area that needs to be regulated.

In addition, OEM licences for MS products should be the same, i.e., MS should not be able to favor one OEM vendor over another as this allows them to punish OEMs for offering competing products.

Thank You
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